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TARGETS FOR FUTURE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE USSR

At a conference on the coordination of the activity of institutions of the All-Union and Republic Academies of Sciences in the field of economics and law held in the Economics and Law Division of the Academy of Sciences USSR 12-17 October 1949, Prof V. F. Vasyutin gave a report on the organization and investigation methods of complex regional economic problems. Vasyutin noted that the general economic tasks of the USSR set forth by Stalin for the next three to four 5-year periods require an expansion of the scientific processing of many complex economic problems, and also an expansion of the economy of the basic economic regions of the union republics.

The following were given as the most important complex economic problems to be worked out in the future: Angara-Yenisey; Kuznetsk Basin-Yenisey; Kolyma-Yana-Indigirka; Transbaykal; Abakan-Minusinsk; the development of the Asiatic North; development of Barabinsk and Kulunda steppes; Greater Altay; development of Central Kazakhstan; Balkhash-Ili; development of Golodnaya Steppe; Aral-Caspian; Fergana; Ural-Emba; Kura-Araks; Sevan-Zanga; Lenkoran'; Kolkhida; development of the Black Sea coast; Volga-Don; Greater Volga; Greater Dnepr; Dnestr; Polessa; creation of the Carpathian industrial region; Greater Donbass; Western Dvina; Transcarpathia; Kola; Pechora; North Urals; Second Baku; Urals-Pechora; development of Sakhalin and the Kurile Islands; creation of new cities and industrial centers in the areas of the routes of new railroad lines; etc.

For each economic problem there should be set up a plan for works which the Council for Coordination and the presidiums of the Academy of Sciences USSR and of the republic academies should approve.

B. A. Pal'min gave a report on the development of the Fergana River valley. The Academy of Sciences Uzbek, SSR, by order of the Council of Ministers and TsK KP(b) Uzbekistan, began working out hypotheses of the economic development of the Fergana River valley in 1949.

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In regard to agriculture, the Fergana valley is divided into three branches: cotton raising, silk raising, and fruit raising. These branches will be developed during the next two to three 5-year periods.

In addition, the Fergana valley region has supplies of coal, petroleum, natural sulfur, and deposits of limestone rocks and nonferrous metals, on the bases of which can be created industrial enterprises having an all-Union significance. In the future, the Fergana valley will be not only a region of highly developed cotton and silk raising, but also a large industrial region. On the base of the resources of hydroelectric power, natural gases, and coal, a powerful electric power industry will be created.

The working out of the problem pertaining to the growth of the production forces of the Fergana valley is set for 1949 - 1951. The questions of the development of the economy of the Fergana include the full and efficient utilization of all land; new irrigation construction and the most efficient utilization of the existing irrigation system and underground flow of water, in order to expand the watered area and to improve water utilization; the further development of cotton raising and increasing the yield of cotton on the base of the grass rotation system; expansion of the food base for silk raising and over-all development of horticulture and viticulture, especially in the lands unfit for cotton raising; development of the branches of the processing industry to assure processing of all agricultural raw materials; swift development of dairy farming; fuller and more efficient utilization of labor reserves to increase further labor productivity and to free part of the labor force from agriculture for industry and other branches of the economy of Uzbekistan and for migration to the newly developed regions of the republic; development of heavy industry, especially hydroelectric power plants, including wide development of the coal, petroleum, and other branches of industry; and expansion of the production of construction materials.

F. T. Shevertalov, in a report on the economic development of hydroelectric resources on the Ili River, stated that Kazakhstan hydroelectric resources have a yearly capacity of more than 18 million kilowatts. The presence of huge potential supplies of raw materials and water power has special significance in Kazakhstan. Especially great are the water power possibilities of the southeastern part of Kazakhstan. The development of the hydroelectric power resources of the Ili River is the key to the development of the production forces of Kazakhstan. With the construction of large hydroelectric power plants and cheap electric power, the production of aluminum and chemical fertilizers and the wide electrification of agricultural production are possible. The construction of dams will permit a significant increase in the area of irrigated land.

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